

My dear Sir

Baltimore in Maryland Dec 25-76

Although I have been continually writing to you, I have had the pleasure of receiving only one letter from you since I left New England.

The Congress is here, situated conveniently enough and doing business. You will ask how we came here. I own I did not see the necessity of removing so soon, but I must conclude that I misjudged, because it was otherwise ruled, not indeed till the opinions of Sumner & Mifflin, then at Philadelphia had been taken. The truth is, the Enemy were within fourteen miles of us, and it was apprehended by some, that the People of Pennsylvania, influenced by Fear, Folly or Treachery, would have surrendered their Capital to appear the Anger of the two Brothers, and atone for their crime in suffering it to remain so long the Seat of Rebellion. We are now informed that they have at length ~~bestirred~~ bestirred themselves, and that hundreds are flocking daily to General Washington's Camp. So if our Army are as expeditious in pursuing as they have been in retreating, we may hope they will take the Enemy at ~~Lebanon~~ before they will be able to reach the Borders of Hudson River.

We yesterday received a letter from General Schuyler, which has occasioned the passing a Resolution, forwarded to you, as I suppose, by this opportunity. The General says, he is informed that the Tories are making in the Eastern States very tardily. I hope he has been misinformed. It is certainly of the greatest importance that New England in a particular manner should be very active in preparing to meet the Enemy early in the Spring. The British Tyrant will not quit his darling object of subduing that Country. The Intent of the Enemy seems to me to be to attack it on all sides. However Troops have penetrated this



This Way, I believe, farther than his Secretions or Intentions.  
I flatter myself they will be driven back to New York. If  
so, he will winter there - Burlington, unless he is prevented by  
an immediate Eviction from New England, will most cer-  
tainly propose himself of Tyondaroga upon as the Lake  
Champlain shall be frozen hard enough to transport his  
Army - Clinton, it is said is gone to Rhode Island with  
8 or 10 thousand to make Winter Quarters there. The in-  
famous Behaviour of the People of Jersey & Pennsylvania  
will give fresh Spirit to the British Court, and afford a  
further Pretext to apply for Troops to every Power in  
Europe where they can have any Prospect of Success.  
Some additional Force they will most probably obtain.  
Ruspia has already been applied to - Their whole Force will  
be poured into New England, for they take it for granted  
that having once subdued those stubborn States, the  
rest will give up without a Struggle. They will take  
Occasion from what has happened in Jersey to incul-  
cate this Opinion. How necessary is it then for our  
Countrymen to strain every Nerve to defeat their Design.  
The Time is short - Let this be the only Subject of our  
Thought and Consultation - Our Affair in France  
I think, wear a promising Aspect - Let us do our Duty  
and defend the fair Inheritance which our Fathers  
have left us - our pious forefathers who mindful of  
Posterity fought and bled that they might transmit  
to them the Blessing of Liberty

When we first heard of at Philadelphia of Clintons  
having sailed to Rhode Island, Mr Barry & myself joined  
with both Whipple of New Hampshire & Mr Barry of Rhode  
Island in a Letter to General Washington, and proposed to  
him the sending General Gates or Brevin with a suitable  
Number of Brigadiers to take the Command in the Eastern



Department. In his Answer which we received in this  
Place he tells us he has ordered Major General Spencer  
& Brigadier General Donold to repair thither, who he  
hopes may be sufficient to head the Government of that  
Country and repel the Enemy in their Attempts to gain the  
Possession of that part of the Continent - He adds that  
he will if possible send some other Brigadier or  
say - General Worcester is also at hand

I wrote to you soon after my Arrival in Philadelphia  
and inclosed a Resolution of Congress relative to the  
prosecuting of blaspheming in New England for the Army  
In another Letter I suggested to you a Plan which I  
think of great Importance if the Measure proposed  
be practicable - I hope both these Letters were duly  
received by you - I am expecting Mr. J. and  
my other worthy colleagues from Boston - We want  
them much - You cannot, my dear Sir, do  
me a greater kindness than by writing to me.  
I suffer greatly through want of Intelligence from  
N. E. I pray you therefore let your letters be made  
very frequent - Believe me to be most cordially

Your Friend  
J. Adams

Hon. Wm. Speakes Warren

By a late letter from London written by Agent Lorrain  
upon



upon whose Intelligence I greatly rely, a Treaty is  
on foot with Russia to furnish Britain with twenty or  
thirty thousand troops - Levies are making with all  
possible Industry in Germany and in Britain & Ireland  
from whence it is expected that 20,000 will be raised  
It is indeed to be supposed that as usual a greater  
appearance will be made on Shore than they will  
realize - But let us consider that they realized the  
last year in America 35,000, and do without Doubt  
recruit the <sup>same</sup> number they do, because they are able  
to do it, we may set down their actual Force in Ameri-  
ca by May or June next at least 55 and probably  
60,000

We have the pleasure of hearing that a valuable  
Prize is arrived at Boston, among the rest of her  
Cargo 10,000 Suits of Cloaths! A most fortunate Prize  
to us, especially as she is said to be the last of eight  
Vessels taken bound to Quebec with necessary Supplies  
for their Troops. However, while we are pleased  
our soldiers with these Acquisitions, we should  
remember that the want of these Supplies will be  
a strong Argument to Charleston, to make a bold  
Push by the first opportunity over the Lake Champlain  
- and in hopes of furnishing himself at Albany; and  
increase the Necessity of the eastern States, send-  
ing their Troops to Tyondago immediately to supply  
the places of those who will return home when  
the Term of their Indultion expires - the very next  
Week!

I have good Information from England that a certain  
Genl Turze who was in Boston the last year & gained the Gratitude  
since & received the civilities of the People, when he returned, gloried  
in the Description and carried Intelligence to the British Ministry  
particularly of the Fortifications in and about Boston - Some of  
the people may remember him. How careful ought we to be least X

Let it be understood we mean only enormous Civilities to Thompson  
we express our feelings of opposition to others